

Wardrobe Rule

1924

Brought into harmony with the workroom measures adopted by the General Chapter of 1918.

Of the Habit

Constitutions, Chapter XXII.

(Section 5.) The measurements and patterns by which each part of the habit of each class must be cut shall be kept in the workroom of each Province, and shall be precisely the same in all the Provinces.

Custumal, Chapter XXIX. (Of the Mistress of the Workroom.)

(Section 4.) . . . She shall use all care that each part of the habit be made in conformity with every detail of the standard patterns of the Community without the slightest modification of any kind.

(Section 5.) A copy of the Wardrobe Rule shall be given to each Sister at her Profession.

Note

Declaration issued by the Mother Superior General, October 31, 1919:—

“Garments entrusted to a Sister for her personal use may not be altered according to her own will and fancy. Any necessary alterations must be made in accordance with the directions given by the Mistress of the Workroom, and in conformity with the accepted patterns.”

The Wardrobe Rule

- Revised*
July 29, 1927
1. The black tunic of the Choir Sisters shall be made with ^{one} ~~three~~ box pleats front and back, and of sufficient length to clear the floor by not more than two inches. It shall be made with close inner sleeves, unbroken at the wrist, and with outer sleeves twelve inches wide, terminating in a cuff seven inches deep, the hem of which shall be one inch wide.
 2. The black scapular shall be of sufficient width at the top to overlap the tunic sleeve cording one-half inch at each side. The bottom shall be four inches wider than the top, with a hem five inches finished. It shall clear the floor by five inches.
 3. The black tunic and scapular of the Novices shall be like that of the Professed Sisters.
 4. Black lawn or cambric may be used for the inner sleeves of the tunic.
 5. The girdle of the Choir Sisters shall, when tied, be seven inches from the floor; it shall be made with three knots, the lowest of which shall be three and one-half inches from the end, and the space between the knots shall be six inches.
 6. The wimple of the Choir Sisters shall be made according to the prescribed pattern. The band, width and length shall be suited to the wearer. The band shall be provided with one button and button-hole, and the

front of the wimple shall be fastened with three loops and buttons.

7. The collar of the Novices shall be made according to the prescribed pattern. It shall have a band three-quarters of an inch wide, with one button on the band and two on the collar, the latter fastened with loops.
8. The coif of the Choir Sisters shall be made according to the prescribed pattern. The width of the puff shall be three and one-half inches, finished, and there shall be one button and button-hole.
9. The cornet of the Choir Sisters shall be made according to the prescribed pattern. The hem, front and back, shall be three-quarters of an inch wide; the cape, when finished, shall be four and one-half inches deep in the middle of the back, and the cornet shall be fastened by one button and button-hole. The width of the front, when turned back, shall be not less than two, and not more than two and one-half inches.
10. The Novices cap shall be made according to the prescribed pattern. The hem shall be three-quarters of an inch wide, back and front, and the cape shall be three and one-half inches deep in the middle of the back.
11. The coif of the Novices shall be made with a puff two and one-half inches wide, and shall be fastened with one button and button-hole.

12. The veil of the Choir Sisters shall be made so as to cover the hands as they hang straight from the shoulders; the width shall be two-thirds the length.

The Novices' veil shall reach the waist-line, and the width shall be two-thirds the length. They both have a facing four and three-quarters inches deep on the front; the back and ends shall be finished with a hem one inch wide. The buckram interlining shall be nineteen inches long, and three and one-half inches wide.

13. The cloak shall be made fulled on to a yoke, with a hem one and one-half inches down both fronts and around the bottom. It shall clear the floor by six inches.
14. Postulants shall wear a plain black dress, with white linen collar and cuffs; a swiss muslin cap with black ribbon strings; and in the street a cloak like that of the Novices, and a short black veil over the cap.
15. The black tunic and every article of clothing shall be marked with the number and rank of the Sister for whose use it is intended:
C. S. (number); C. N. (name).
Under-clothing plainly marked need not be re-marked after a Novice is professed.
16. Each Sister may have:
2 black tunics.
2 black scapulars.

- 1 girdle.
- 1 veil.
- 2 black cloaks (one for winter; one for summer).
- 6 coifs.
- 6 cornets.
- 6 wimples.
- 2 pairs of shoes.
- 1 pair of over-shoes.
- 6 pairs of black stockings.
- 6 pairs of white muslin drawers.
- 6 pairs of white muslin or cambric tunics.
- 4 white muslin or cambric night-gowns.
- 2 flannel night-gowns.
- 2 flannel under-skirts.
- 2 black petticoats.
- 2 white drilling under-waists.
- 3 sets of merino underwear, or combination.
- 4 white gauze vests, or combination.
- 4 white or coloured aprons.
- 1 black or grey wrapper.

Low shoes may be worn by those who need them; also black woolen or cotton mittens or gloves.

Of Religious Poverty

Rule, Chapter IV.

(Section 4.) . . . Do not lend, give away, or exchange anything, without permission either general or particular.

(Section 5.) Do not appropriate to thine own use anything without permission. Ask for what seemeth to be needful.

(Section 8.) When gifts are offered to thee, accept them only in behalf of the Community or for the poor, but never for thyself without the permission of thy Superior.

(Section 9.) Exercise care and economy even in small matters. Injure nothing, waste nothing, and use all care that what is entrusted to thee for personal use last as long as possible, remembering that all is God's, that nothing is thine, and that thou art but a guest in God's house.